# THE EXAMINER.

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## THE POLITICAL EXAMINER.

Party is the madness of many for the gain of a few.

SWIFT.

No. 70.

### MY LORD CASTLEREAGH

The case of this Minister has been already explained in the Examiner, and is so well known and appreciated by the whole public, that it would be an insult to their common sense to re-argue the proofs of his practical corruption. He enters, *as far as he can*, into the barter of a Writership for a Seat in Parliament: he acknowledges it, he acknowledges, though with much shuffling, it's illegality, it's corruption, and it's bad example; and then Mr. Perceval and others get up in the House and say that he does not deserve, even—what? to be a Placeman? No:—to sit in the House? No: to be trusted? No—he does not deserve, says Mr. Perceval, even A CENSURE. It is the *principle* then, by which a man is declared guilty and innocent at the same time, that must arrest our curiosity—that principle, of which the Ministers are continually boasting—that principle, which sets Mr. Perceval declaiming about his morality and Mr. Canning ranting about his honour. If you believe these men in their talking moments, when they toss their heads and their fists about, there is not a more delicate and dignified set of men breathing; to speak of corruption is to plant a dagger in their gentlemanly feelings; you run them through the body with a suspicion, and cut their throats with an innuendo: but when corruption is at last fairly discovered under their cloaks, and so manifestly that they cannot deny it, then the *motive*, the *intention* becomes every thing; and at last, if the *intention* is not to be taken as an excuse, then *candour* is pleaded, *candour* in acknowledging a fact manifest to every body. Here is the high sense of honour, the dignity, the indignation! The light which is thrown by this single case into the principles of these "honourable men," to say nothing of their conduct on the Duke of York's trial, exposes at once all the disgusting cant about rational and moral principle, which has so long been played off as a counterpart to what is called Jacobinism; and without any puerile invective against all Courts and all Ministers, it will enable the reader to make a true though melancholy comparison between the "honor" that is thought sufficient for the conduct of a nation, and that which regulates, adorns, and dignifies the commonest habits of a private gentleman.

The two grounds upon which the Noble Lord and his friends found his defence are simply,

1. *The intention with which the "error" was committed:*
2. *The candour with which it is acknowledged.*

And upon these they construct another fairy ground, viz.—

3. *That there is no moral corruption in the whole business.*

1. When intention is allowed to extenuate an offence, it can only be in the ignorance, harmlessness, or necessity of the end proposed, as in a boxer who plants a death-blow unwittingly, or in a simpleton who picks your pocket for the joke's sake, or a pauper who steals a loaf for his starving family: it is a doctrine grossly singular, that when a man has a corrupt object in view, his intention can be pure or even negatively pure, and yet this is the principal point in his Lordship's defence. Mark the phrases he uses on the occasion:—"*If* any *error* of his was made apparent, he hoped the House would impute it to ACCIDENT rather than design:"—"he trusted that at the conclusion of the investigation no person would be able to point out *any corrupt motive* by which his conduct had been actuated:—"he did not know, till this transaction, that there existed in society such a character as a trafficking broker:"—(*a laugh, and an expression of indignation from* Lord Milton)—"he understood Mr. Reding to come *merely as a gentleman* and made a *mere* simple answer to his questions:"—"the Noble Lord (A. Hamilton) seemed to think that he was to be particularly blamed because he *happened* to be President of the Board of Controul:"—he never for a moment had an idea that the appointment (the Writership) in his gift could lead to *any corrupt influence* either in that House or in individual electors:"—"the present transaction, as it had turned out, he could not undoubtedly justify to the *full extent*, but he would say that no *moral corruption* had been proved against him:"—he would *not* avail himself of a *very just plea* which he might make,—namely, that his intention as to the disposal of the Writership was *only* intention, and had never been acted on: no, if any man *could* believe that there was any turpitude *even* in the intention, he would disclaim such an excuse:"—"No: all that could be said was that he, by means which PERHAPS *were not strictly consonant to the usage of Parliament*, but to which *undoubtedly no corrupt motive* could be attributed, had sought the advancement of his private friend,—the advancement of one too whom he knew from former proofs could prove ultimately beneficial to the *public service*." Now we have nothing to do with Lord Clancarty or his abilities; we have not to consider how many eulogies of Lord Castlereagh and of the Spanish Junta he might have uttered, or how many peculators he might have screened, for the "public service:" we must keep our eyes on the endeavours of Lord Castlereagh to introduce a man by corrupt means into the House of Commons, and we must never forget through the whole of this business, that Hamlin the Tinman, a

man whose ignorance in political traffic was certainly of a more plausible probability than his Lordship's, a man who had none of the country's money or reputation to preserve, was absolutely ruined for attempting to procure an official situation by bribery: HAMLIN did not procure the situation; there was nothing effected; he made his offer, he shewed the first fruits of his *intention*, but the business was very properly cut short, not by the *apprehensions*, but by the consitutional policy of the Minister: in vain did this poor wretch repent and implore, in vain did he exercise all his *candour* on the occasion, Mr. PERCEVAL was the counsel against him, and who shall resist Mr. PERCEVAL's wrath, virtue, and patriotism united, when the criminal has the meanness and the audacity to be—a Tinman! For my part, judging from the universally received opinions of cause and effect, it appears to me, that an intention of this nature on the part of a public Minister, is in every respect worse than the actual commission on the part of a private individual. How is it possible for Lord CASTLEREAGH to assert, with a face that is not twenty times washed with brass, that while he was intending, even in one solitary instance, to violate the purity of the Constitution, he had no corrupt intention? He tells us, it was for the advancement of his *private* friend, and of one who could benefit the "public service." A strange way to benefit the public by violating their rights: but what does he mean by *private* friend? Such a private friend in Parliament is, I believe, as *public* a friend as a Minister can well obtain, and when his Lordship talks of talent, public business, public service, and *all that*, his meaning is just as clear as if he had said in plain terms, "Lord CLANCARTY was to have been a Yes and No man for the Ministers." It is represented as a singular merit in the Noble Secretary, that he had no idea his conduct could sanction or give rise to future corruption. His Lordship whispers the Constitution: "I say—excuse this little thrust of a dagger: I don't mean to assassinate you, upon my *honour*; and though I do give you a blow or two, nobody has a *right to follow it up*, you know." Exquisite union of logic and tenderness! but it would not do under Lord ELLENBOROUGH's act. A simple assault, or even "an *intent* to commit," &c. goes a very alarming way with *common* justice, and I am afraid it would be no excuse for a "cutter and maimer" to assure the Judge, that in stabbing me in the fifth rib he by no means intended to set a precedent to other stabbers. However, that Lord CASTLEREAGH really had no idea of setting a *public* example of corruption, when he negociated with Mr. REDING, I am very willing to admit, for he hoped, no doubt, to manage the affair in such a way, that the public never should hear of it; and when he artfully holds out that he made strict enquiry into the character of Mr. REDING, and of the person who was to have the writership, as if character had any thing to do with such an affair, who is so blind as not to see that this caution was entirely selfish, and that the Noble Corruptor was examining the grounds of his *own* security in the business? But now that the case is discovered, what can his Lordship say for the example he has set? What can he say against any wretch, who may hereafter be brought before Parliament as a dealer in corruption? What can he, or Mr. PERCEVAL, or Mr. CANNING say, to prove to us, that every man, from this time henceforth, is not *entitled*, as far as example of impunity can entitle him, to tamper with the National Representation?—The question of intention therefore resolves itself into a very simple alternative:—if the Ministers believe in the badness of the intention, as Mr. PERCEVAL did with respect to HAMLIN, they have shewn that they have one law for a courtier, and another for a common subject; and if they believe his Lordship's intention innocent, they only expose to us those *long habits of political corruption, which have taught them to regard with indifference what the uncorrupt part of the community regard with abhorrence.*

2. And now, says Lord CASTLEREAGH, if you do not think much of my intentions, I hope you will think a great deal of my candour. "Aye," says Mr. PERCEVAL, "his candour! think of that!" Candour! A Minister can hardly speak a word now-a-days without reminding us of that blessed proposal of SWIFT "for improving, correcting, and *ascertaining* the English language." Candour, according to our good Old English, signifies the clear and dignified acknowledgment of wrong, and is one of the virtues of a great mind. Lord CASTLEREAGH's candour is of a very different sort. What his friends seem to mean by it is, that he does not brazen the matter out, and this, I allow, may reasonably awaken their sympathy, and make them call upon us for our surprize. It amounts precisely to this: "Sir, this affair, *as it has turned out*, I do not mean to justify to the *full extent*: *perhaps* I have been in an *error*, and I am even candid enough to acknowledge, that that fellow REDING is a scoundrel; but I look upon myself as an excellent moral character through the whole of the business." Such is the acknowledgment that is to blot out an offence against the nation; such is the candour of my Lord CASTLEREAGH, a candour that confesses *about half as much* as common decency ought to have compelled, and that confesses nothing in point of true, voluntary, noble minded repentance. If I catch a man by the wrist with his hand in my coat-pocket, what is it to me that he *confesses* the fact while he denies the intention? What is it to me, that when I charge him with his design, he bows and replies, "But, Sir, consider my candour!" Would this be a fine frank humility, or would it not be a gross mixture of barefaced impudence and unavoidable submission? It is a still newer doctrine, that I should trust this man again, or that Lord CASTLEREAGH should continue to be one of the guardians of the Constitution *because* he has acknowledged the violation of his trust. Look at his subsequent humility: he remains in office in the teeth of 167 Commoners, who have pronounced him unfit for it, in spite of the Constitution, which has declared him incapable of it, and in the face of the whole people of England, who are ashamed and sick of him.

3. In short, whether the courtiers on this occasion do or do not think as they speak, they as well as Lord CASTLEREAGH afford a melancholy instance, how easily the vanities of a Court can subvert fine moral principle. A great soul, like SULLY's or CHATHAM's, will preserve its vigour in the midst of the sunshine, and indeed present itself in a thousand new and glorious lights; but the atmosphere and the enjoyment are too powerful for a feeble mind, and it becomes as proud, as petulant, and as corrupt as a West Indian task-master. One can hardly help smiling to hear CASTLEREAGH talk of REDING's *baseness* as opposed to his own virtues; but while he boasts of moral purity, his indifference and apparent ignorance of the first principles of his duty are truly disgusting. "REDING, he understood, came to him *merely as a gentleman*," though he knew the man's business perfectly: the negociation therefore for a seat in Parliament he con-

sidered, by his own confession, as a matter that might be decently planned between a Lord and a *Gentleman* without any hurt to their moral purity. Again, his Lordship could not justify the transaction to its *full extent*, "yet he could say that *moral corruption* had not been proved against him." Now, until there are two sorts of virtue discovered, one for a Christian and another for a courtier, and both agreeing in moral principle—until in fact "confusion is worse confounded," it appears to me, that when his Lordship could not justify his transaction to its *full extent*, so far he confessed himself morally corrupt, for political corruption is moral corruption, with this difference, if there be any, that as political corruption involves a greater portion of society, it is worse than moral, or to speak more properly, domestic corruption, the sphere of which is comparatively so confined; and upon the same reasoning, as virtue and vice depend upon that which makes mankind happy or miserable, I would prefer a man who was publicly virtuous and privately vicious, to one who was publicly corrupt and privately moral, supposing such characters to exist. Example, disinterestedness, every comparatively good principle is on the side of the former. However, I believe no such characters do exist: for the public virtue of the one is mere love of popularity, and the private virtue of the other is rank selfishness, and a hypocritical artifice to ingratiate, or at least, the honour is of that worldly sort which is founded upon nothing but the habits of a man's own sphere of life. It is droll enough to hear Lord CASTLEREAGH talking indignantly of REDING's offer of a sum of money, when we find himself and his relations enjoying a profusion of sinecure offices in times like these. Here is the virtue, such as it is, which arises from the habit of treating common bribes with contempt, but where is the virtue that resists greater temptations? As to Mr. PERCEVAL, it is difficult to discover what he thinks of any virtue at all, when he expresses his conviction, that even in the event of a censure upon Lord CASTLEREAGH, "the House would feel there was *no stain* thrown either upon the moral or political character of his Noble Friend." The Speaker teaches us, that the censure of Parliament is one of the most disgraceful punishments that can be inflicted, and yet the character of Lord CASTLEREAGH in the event of that censure would have incurred no disgrace! The censure would have been, what the public opinion really is, viz. that his Lordship's "conduct was a dereliction of his duty as President of the Board of Controul, a gross violation of his engagements as a servant of the Crown, and an attack on the purity and constitution of the House:" and yet this would have thrown no disgrace on his Lordship's moral or political character, no, not even a stain! Really, this Mr. PERCEVAL does seem to me to be one of the weakest men in existence; and, when I say this, I think I view him in rather a favourable aspect.—Only think of his Bill!

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## *FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.*

### GERMANY.

HAMBURGH, APRIL 13.—We understand that on the 5th, the Russian Charge d'Affaires at Vienna delivered to that Court a Declaration that the Russian Imperial Court remained strictly united with the French Imperial Cabinet, as well for peace as for war.

NUREMBERGH, APRIL 11.—The 9th will be a memorable day in history. On that day war was declared, the Austrians have notified it along the frontiers, from Bohemia to Italy, that peace was at an end. An unfounded report is in circulation, that an action has taken place at Bamberg.

DRESDEN, APRIL 12.—We understand that a Russian army has assembled on the frontiers of Gallicia, which is to enter that province on the commencement of war, to make a common cause with France.

MUNICH, APRIL 7.—Early this morning an express arrived from the army, with intelligence that the Austrians were advancing against Mulhdorff and Wasserburgh. A second express this evening states, that the Austrians are only making strong reconnoitring parties, upon which the departure of the Court has been delayed.

AUGSBURGH, APRIL 8.—The head-quarters of the Duke of Rivoli were yesterday at Ulm.

BERLIN, APRIL 15.—The 70,000 Russians on the Gallician frontiers are commanded by General Doctrow Suwarrow Lewis Gertfahakow.

## *PROVINCIAL INTELLIGENCE.*

### HAMPSHIRE MEETING.

The most numerous and respectable Meeting of the Freeholders of this county ever remembered, was held on Tuesday, at the city of Winchester. It is supposed that no less than two thousand Freeholders were present—men of substance and independent principles—the sound, substantial, bold yeomanry of England.

Mr. PAULETT, after a short speech, proposed several Resolutions, containing Thanks to Mr. Wardle, and expressions of disapprobation of the conduct of Ministers in the late Inquiry. These Resolutions were seconded by Mr. Herbert.

Mr. COBBETT addressed the Meeting with much force and argument. He said that though the people of England continued to hold such Meetings as these, that liberty was denied to the Sister Kingdom, by the terrors of the bayonet. He objected to the Resolutions moved by Mr. Paulett, on account of their omissions; neither Lord Folkstone nor Sir F. Burdett being specifically thanked: but he had also a stronger objection to them, as they went to throw all the blame of the opposition to Mr. Wardle upon Ministers, when it was notorious that he was opposed by the Opposition with more art and insidiousness than by the Ministry. Not one Member of the House who composed the late Cabinet, voted with the minority of 125; not one of the late Cabinet retainers afforded Col. Wardle the least aid; they, in, fact, voted against him; even Mr. Wm. Smith and Mr. Sheridan turned round and struck him in the back; they were the Duke's friends, and wanted to return to power. "You must all remember (continued Mr. Cobbett), that before the late Ministers came into power, they told us what they would do, and that too in a manner so solemn, that it must have been impossible for any man who don't know them so well as we do, to have doubted their sincerity. I need not say that they failed in every one of these promises—I defy any man to point out one promise on any Constitutional question that they did not falsify. After having for years after years reprobated the folly of entering into expensive wars about Hanover, these very same men advised his Majesty to declare that he never would make peace without the restoration of Hanover. —You can all remember their ten, twenty, and almost thirty years clamour against the general measures of Ministers, and particularly the Income Tax, on which occasion some of them even seceded, in consequence of the failure of their exertions to prevent it. Some of them entered protests, some wrote pamphlets, and others made speeches against it, longer, I hope, than any that will be made at this Meeting. After they get into power, what do they do?—They find the Income Tax at

6¼ per cent. and without the slightest hesitation advance it to 10, and not at all ashamed of this abandonment of principle, they actually told us in so many words—that, if it drove us from the first floor, we must go to the second; if from the second, to the third; and if from the third, into the garret; and they might have told us from the garret to jump out of the window into the street. These were their very words. But the last act of that Ministry was the most base of all their acts. After talking and bawling for so many years about the Constitution, what do they do?—they bring a Bill into the House of Commons, and then suddenly take it out of the hands of that majority which they always had, and then have the impudence to tell the Nation that they had dropped the measure, because the King did not like it." Mr. Cobbett would not therefore, he said, agree to throw the whole blame on the present Ministers, and he disapproved of the proposed Resolutions, thinking that their object was to assist the Opposition in getting back into power. He did not wish to mention the Duke of *York*, to tread on what was down, or to add a sting to those pangs which his Royal Father must already feel. During the present reign, many things had happened that have been hostile to liberty; but still he would assert, that at no time has the Monarch who now sits upon the throne ever discovered any thing of the disposition of a tyrant, or any thing inimical to the happiness of his people.—*(Universal applause is said to have followed this sentence.)*—Though great names were involved, and even one Son of the King, in no part of the proceedings could it be discovered that the Heir Apparent had a hand in any thing improper, which must be a high satisfaction to the nation. No less than five Ministers of the Established Church were implicated in the late transactions, and if this was the morality they taught us, what in God's name is to become of their parishioners? He hoped the Ministers of the Church would not neglect to inculcate an abhorrence of such corruptions. But there would be no end to all the evils complained of, till there was a Reform in Parliament. It had been said that no ten persons agreed on the plan of reform: for his part, the plan of reform proposed by Earl Grey, when Mr. Grey, would entirely satisfy him. When this plan was proposed, which clearly shewed that the people were bought and sold like sheep and heifers, the proposers (Mr. Grey and his party) pledged themselves that if ever they got into power they would effect a thorough reform. They did get into power—Did they effect a reform or any thing like a reform? No, you all know they did not. Mr. Cobbett said, "I want a House of Commons that shall not pocket that money which they are sent into that House to take care of—I don't want to see a rabble House of Commons—I wish to see in the House of Commons the sons of Noblemen and Gentlemen of landed property, whose situations shall set them above corruption; but I don't want to see that House filled with men who are notoriously bought and sold like a bullock in Smithfield Market; and in saying this, don't suppose that I am going beyond the truth—they themselves declared so. Why, sooner than live under the Government of such men, a man would almost hang himself out of spite. I tell you candidly and plainly, that all your endeavours to get rid of corruptions and abuses are useless, unless we can obtain a Reform in Parliament. Only look at the case of Lord Castlereagh and Lord Clancarty, who are convicted out of their own mouths, of having negotiated for the sale of a Writership to the East Indies. The evidence of Reding, the go-between, and that of Lord C. prove the facts beyond all doubt. I have here a copy of the original evidence printed by order of the House themselves, for they are above all shame; and these persons are to be tried for this transaction this very day.—Do you think now that Lord Castlereagh will be turned out of that House?—it would be a great shame if he was. Whilst such things as these are going on in that House, no Reform can be expected to take place there—all the inquiries and commissions that are appointed, are but another way of giving salaries. We never see any punishment inflicted on peculators whose plundering transactions are brought to light; so that the only advantage we enjoy from those inquiries and commissions, is that of paying the wages of the commissioners. Once more I repeat, there is no hope of any change in these important matters, without that reformation which shall give to the people *real* representatives, and no longer suffer the nominal representation of Ministers. I am sure that his Majesty wishes us success in this, for it is particularly his interest to oppose that host of borough-mongers, who hold him in subjection." Mr. Cobbett then alluded to the number of foreigners in British pay. The annual expence of the Army was *twenty millions*, of which five millions went to foreigners in English pay; nay, even a German Officer has been appointed Commander of the Eastern District. Thus, while British troops were sent into Spain to fight for Ferdinand and the Monks, while they were sent out to the West Indies, exposed to the mortality of that deadly climate, these foreigners had stipulated that they should not be sent out of Europe! Of these things he complained. "These," concluded Mr. Cobbett, "are some of the observations which I have to submit. How weighty our burdens are, you all know and feel,—and while Ministers decry all scrutiny into their conduct, as they did two nights ago, when they rejected Lord Folkestone's motion, they say, "*it is an insult to suspect us.*" Don't they make us come before the Commissioners and make us render an account of the last farthing of our income? And yet there are men found who think it wrong to suspect *them*, at the very same time that by that very act they suspect *us* so much, as to think it necessary to employ a host of spies and informers to prevent our infringing the regulations of that act. This is the most presumptuous arrogance that was ever displayed by any set of men. When general inquiry is demanded, *both sides* join in the House of Commons. Mr. Tierney—and Mr. Ponsonby, the Leader of Opposition, the late Lord Chancellor of Ireland—joined in the cry.—*There is no hope from either Party or Faction.* If we do not appeal to his Majesty in a respectful, firm, and loyal manner—if we do not cordially and firmly unite, the cause of England is lost, and every effort will be rendered unavailing." After a few observations respecting the County Members, Mr. Cobbett proposed an Amendment, by leaving out all the Resolutions except the words "Resolved, That," and substituting a single Resolution of his own. This Resolution, after giving the Thanks of the Meeting to Colonel Wardle, Sir F. Burdett, Lord Folkestone, Sir S. Romilly, Mr. Whitbread, Mr. Curwen, &c. and alluding to the topics introduced in the speech of Mr. Cobbett, concludes as follows:—

"That from the foregoing facts, as well as from numerous others, notorious to the whole nation, this Meeting have a firm conviction, that it is in the House of Commons, as at present constituted, that exists the great and efficient cause of that profligacy of maners amongst so many in high life; of that corrupt disposal of offices; of that endless train of unpunished peculations; of that squandering of our earnings and incomes; of that establishment of an army of foreigners in the heart of our country; of that incapacity in the conducting of public affairs, both at home and abroad; and of all that national misery and disgrace which have been but too long so severely felt, and the dangers to be apprehended from which have now attracted the serious attention of even the most thoughtless and unobserving. That, therefore, this Meeting, anxious alike for the preservation of his Majesty's Throne and legitimate authority, and for the restoration of the rights and liberties bequeathed them by the wisdom, the fortitude, and the valour of their forefathers, hold it a duty which they owe to their Sovereign and his Successors, to themselves and their children, to the safety, happiness, and renown of their country, to declare their decided conviction, that no change for the better can reasonably be expected, without such a Reform in the Commons House of Parliament, as shall make that House in reality as well as in name, the Representatives of the People, and not the instruments in the hands of a Minister; and farther to declare, that it will be expedient for us, at a future convenient time, to assemble in County-Meeting, in order to consider of a Petition to the King, praying that his Majesty will be graciously pleased to afford

us his Royal countenance and support in our constitutional efforts against a faction of borough-mongers, not less hostile to the true dignity and just prerogatives of his Majesty's Crown, than to the interests and feelings of his faithful, suffering, and insulted people."

This Resolution was seconded by Mr. CHAMBERLAYNE and supported by Sir H. MILDMAY. It was opposed by the Rev. Mr. POULTER, who said, among many other things, "the amendment that has been proposed is, I do assert, of a most mischievous tendency, although I do not say that it has been proposed with such a design. But in my judgment THE CROWN AND THE MITRE REPOSED WITH MORE SECURITY IN PALL-MALL THAN IN THE DAMP BANKS AT BOTLEY—(*Great tumult*—"*out, off*,"—*hisses*), for the same man has actually at different periods made *Jacobinism his God and his Devil. A Hell*, and *Jacobinism the Devil of it*—(*Off, off! cut it short! O Lord!*)—To the matter introduced into this Amendment, there is, in my mind, the most solemn ground of exception, called upon as we now are, *hastily* to decide on the important subject of Parliamentary Reform—(*You have had plenty of time to think of it—aye, twenty years!*)—I do think that Amendment very exceptionable—(*Aye, aye! I thought so!*)—I hope that it will be within the power of Parliament *to reform itself*)—(*Never, never! what an idea! stuff! you have forgot yourself!*)—I say the notice for the Meeting not going to Parliamentary Reform, it is not competent to this Meeting to go into that question—(*But we* WILL *go into it.*)—The Mover of that Amendment would follow the example of Major Cartwright, who always brings a *pocket petition* with him. Let us only have fair notice. "I have not made up my mind on this subject—(*No, nor ever will.*)—Many other Gentlemen have not made up *their* minds."—(*Every man of common sense long ago! off, off!*)

The Meeting becoming clamourous, the Rev. Gentleman retired.—Mr. Cobbett spoke in reply, and was followed by Mr. Jones, and Mr. Portal, who spoke in favour of the Resolution, which was carried with only four dissenting voices. Thanks were next moved by Mr. Powlett to the High Sheriff, and carried unanimously. Thanks were also moved and carried to Mr. Cobbett, Mr. Powlett, and the *rest of the sixty-nine* who signed the Requisition. A Resolution was then proposed, that Mr. Chute was absent on leave from the House of Commons, on the plea of indisposition; which, however, was not carried.

Upwards of 300 Gentlemen afterwards dined together at the George Inn, to celebrate the *emancipation* of the county!

# *IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.*

## HOUSE OF LORDS.

This House has been occupied during the week in forwarding the various Bills in their different stages. On Friday, an adjournment took place to Monday, after a conversation on the Orders in Council;—Lord GRENVILLE having observed, he had heard that the Orders had been abandoned, a circumstance which he rejoiced at, as the system was one of the most ruinous, the most destructive, that weakness or impolicy could devise. To which the Earl of LIVERPOOL replied, that the Orders in Council were not abandoned, but that an alteration in them had taken place, suggested from the exigencies of the times, and not arising from any abandonment of their principle; the policy of which his Majesty's Ministers to this hour maintained.—The extent of these alterations would be laid before the House in a few days.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.

*Monday, April 24.*

### MR. WHITE, AND MR. HART.

Mr. WHITBREAD rose to present a Petition from Henry White, Proprietor of *The Independent Whig* Newspaper, at present under confinement in Dorchester gaol. The Petition, stating various hardships and privations already detailed, having been read,

Mr. WHITBREAD observed, he should not detain the House longer than to submit a few observations, which he was induced to do out of respect to the memory of one of the first scholars this country had ever produced, who was formerly confined in Dorchester gaol, Mr. Gilbert Wakefield. It had been stated as a reason for Mr. White's rigorous confinement, that Mr. Wakefield had abused that indulgence which he had been allowed, by spreading discontent among the prisoners: had that been the fact, he could not discover why Mr. White should be punished for the faults of Mr. Wakefield; but he had been requested by the relations of Mr. Wakefield to state, that no such misconduct had ever been alledged against Mr. Wakefield, by any person belonging to the prison. The Hon. Member observed, there was, he understood, a process in existence by which the whole of the proceedings might be brought before another tribunal, and that there was an intention to have recourse to that process. Till after the result of that application was known, he should defer submitting any motion to the House on the subject; he could not, however, avoid stating some circumstances relative to Special Juries which had just been communicated to him. He had been informed that the Master of the Crown Office had a power of passing over any name he chose, under the plea that it was not likely that the person so passed over would be able to attend; thus he might pass over any particular person to whom he or any person had an objection, and so obtain a Jury entirely of their own picking. There was also another practice he was informed existed, which, if it did exist, was an evil of the most disgraceful nature; what he alluded to was, that if a Special Juryman gave a verdict in favour of the Crown, he received two guineas: if against it, he then was paid but one; and if he ever decided against the Crown, it never was his chance to be summoned again as a Juryman.—He also had been informed, that in all cases the Crown paid double fees!—These practices, if they did exist, gave the Crown an undue influence. It was not necessary for him to say more on the subject at present. But if on inquiry he found these practices really did exist, he should certainly think them worthy of investigation. He then moved, that the Petition do lie on the table.

Some conversation ensued.—Mr. WINDHAM thought the Petitioner had been indulged too much!!—The ATTORNEY-GENERAL said that the practices alluded to did not now exist, and was indignant at the bare mention of them:—while Sir F. BURDETT contended that the punishment was both severe and unconstitutional, and that *ex-officio* prosecutions ought to be done away.—The Petition was received, as was also one from Mr. Hart, the printer of the *Whig*.

### OFFICES IN REVERSION.

Lord PORCHESTER stated his reasons for submitting a Bill for preventing the grant of Offices in Reversion or for Joint Lives with the benefit of Survivorship. The measure was no object originating in his own legislative views; it grew out of two Reports of that House, and was the last practical act recommended for adoption by two successive Committees. In that House it had been on former occasions received without a dissentient voice; even the King's Ministers did not feel it either justifiable or politic to interfere with it in its passage. But an opposition appeared in another branch of the Legislature, and was successful, not only against the unanimous feeling of that House, but also against the general voice of the country. The principle of the measure, after some modifications, did however pass that House, meeting in its progress considerable opposition in a quarter where one should suppose every duty to the country and every regard *to personal dignity* forbade intrusion. Their opposition was a question of no easy solution, but the Protest which was subsequently affixed upon the Journals of that House, held no considerable rank amongst the follies of Princes either of past or present times.—(*Hear! Hear!*)—For that extraordinary record he could not assign any rational motive, and for that best reason, that no rational cause was assignable. Every man who venerated the throne and loved the Constitution, saw with pain the names affixed to that Protest

(alluding to the signatures of the *Dukes of York, Cumberland* and *Cambridge*, to the Protest against the present Reversion Act). That feeling, however painful, was considerably alleviated by the consideration, that the Prince nearest to the throne, and first in the public hopes, had too great a knowledge and an affection for the Constitution of his country, to commit his character by giving his august signature to such a record.—*(Hear! Hear!)*—The Noble Lord then at length expatiated on the numerous benefits which the measure recommended by him was likely to produce, and particularly trusted the Noble Lord opposite *(Castlereagh)*, from the *experience* he had in the business of Reversionary Grants, would afford the House as some compensation, at least the benefits of his frequent practice. He did not require from that Noble Lord to dive into the Chronicles of Ireland. There were no old legends from which he wished his Lordship to draw his stores. All that he wanted was of his own memory, contemporaneous with his own time, nay with his own official existence. It was for him to give the catalogue of Reversionary Grants, which beyond numbers he had given—grants of office, not in reversion, but what ought to be better termed, resurrection offices, which the Noble Lord had conferred upon successive generations to come, with the hope of atoning for the period during which the same offices lay dormant for generations that were past.—*(Hear! Hear!)*—The fate of his proposed Bill the Noble Lord (Porchester) said, was connected with the incipient progress of that *temperate Reform*, which the country demanded. It was for Ministers to consider the course which they now intended to pursue; and he trusted they would not, at least on the present occasion, indulge themselves as heretofore, in the capacity of mutes. The House ought to feel its duty; it should recollect that this was the first practical measure of Reform which Committees appointed by itself had most strenuously recommended. Who could tell in this extraordinary era what was hatching in the womb of time? Delay could only increase the difficulties; and the House should feel that it was a measure called for by the country with universal acclaim. He was the enemy to innovation when he called upon Parliament to effect temperate Reform. In doing so he by no means acceded to the opinion, that the period in which we lived were the worst times of the Constitution. He, on the contrary, believed, that liberty and constitutional blessings were better felt than by our ancestors. Theirs was the keenness of pursuit, ours the calmness of enjoyment.—*(Hear! Hear!)*—And it was therefore nothing but infatuation that could urge Princes at this moment to raise the warhoop of prerogative—to doubt the constitutional attachment of that House to the Executive, and to create general distrust throughout the Empire. They ought to have been better lessoned; but his apprehension was, that they were not apt scholars.—*(Hear! Hear! Hear!)*—The Noble Lord concluded by moving for leave to bring in a Bill to prohibit the Grant of Offices in Reversion, or for Joint Lives, with benefit of Survivorship.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said, he never considered the present measure as so great an encroachment, as by some persons it had been conceived to be, on the prerogative of the Crown; nor yet, on the other hand, did he ever think it a measure calculated to produce any great alleviation of the burthens of the people. There were many instances in which merit might be rewarded by reversions at infinitely less expence to the public, than by some actual and immediate grant. Having stated what had always been his opinion on the present measure, he should now mention what were his grounds for opposing the introduction of the Bill at present. He objected to it principally, because the Bill was not at present necessary. They had at this moment an act which did not expire for six weeks after the next Session of Parliament. They were thus guarded against granting further Reversions in the mean time, and in the course of next week they would have a Report under consideration, the effect of which would go to determine, whether any of these Offices should be abolished? The Noble Lord had stated, that the Constitution of this Country was never more entire than at this moment. In this he concurred. Was it not fit, therefore, that we should look with jealousy to the plan by which it was proposed to improve it; and that if our Constitution was now most perfect, we should beware of those specious arguments of Reform, which might have the effect of causing us to lose what we at present enjoyed? He only wished the House to pause.—There was sufficient time during the next Session even to think of this Bill, if it should be deemed necessary.

Mr. BANKES, Lord H. PETTY, and Mr. TIERNEY, supported the motion. Mr. TIERNEY observed, that those in power, and the Chancellor of the Exchequer in particular, seemed to get bolder and bolder every day against Reform. He would advise him and his Colleagues to abandon such a course—he would seriously advise them not to treat too lightly the heat of the People. Why was the Chancellor of the Exchequer so strenuous against Reform? Why did he not endeavour to retrench unnecessary expences, useless offices? A Noble Relation of his (we suppose Lord Arden) held a situation, or indeed two situations, whereof the proceeds were 35,000l. a year, of which, for the collection, 23,000l. was expended, and in whose hands for the last 17 years, an annual balance of 200,000l. remained. He would support the motion as tending to diminish the too great influence of the Crown, and to reduce the unnecessary expenditure of the public money.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER explained the allusions made to his Noble Relation's offices; the balance did not remain in his hands, it was lodged in the Bank.

Mr. WHITBREAD commented on the surprising silence with which Ministers were afflicted all of a sudden; it was one of their periodical fits. He remembered, indeed, one occasion on which a plain blunt man, telling a plain blunt story, produced a *splendid tirade* from the Right Hon. Gentleman opposite; but now he seemed completely dumb. The Chancellor of the Exchequer had, indeed, condescended to give his opinion on the subject, and what had he said? Why, indeed this Bill would produce very little saving. For his part, he always looked with a jealous eye at such expressions. *This* Bill might produce a *little saving*, *that* Bill might produce *a little*, and the *other* Bill produce *a little*, and all these *little* savings rise to something considerable. The Lord Chancellor had, it seems, said he would advise the King to grant an Office in Reversion, merely because the Suspension Bill was passed. Perhaps he would wish to give that advice in order that his Royal Master might fix upon him for the reversion.—*(A laugh.)*—That Noble Lord is, it seems, a great reversionist himself, and on that account would not wish so good a thing should be abolished. The Chancellor of the Exchequer too deprecated the nomination of Committees, "wide-wasting" Committees, as he called them; they did waste a little indeed; they wasted the Bank a little, and they wasted the East India Directors a little, and they were even powerful enough to waste the Dutch Commissioners.—*(A laugh.)*—Oh! they were indeed "wide-wasting" Committees. He hoped Ministers would be pleased to deliver their sentiments on the subject: their silence, indeed, reminded him of an old story which he once heard of the monkeys. The monkeys, it was said, could speak if they would, but they were too cunning, for they knew if they spoke they would be made to work; and just so the Ministers chose to remain dumb, lest they might be employed.

Mr. CANNING did not see what right he had to be called on to speak unless he chose it; it was a subject on which he thought he was entitled to use his own discretion; he had voted in favour of the Suspension Bill, when it was first brought forward; he had voted for its remaining in effect to next Session, and he did not speak now, because he did not wish to interrupt the progress of a Bill for the continuance of which he had formerly voted. He stated the arguments of those in favour of and against Reversions; and, without saying which opinion he himself held, he defied any man in existence, with all his ingenuity, to affix a stigma to them who held either: he said he had never heard the story which had been applied to the Lord Chancellor, and without meaning any disrespect to Mr. W. he did not believe it. He voted against the motion.

The question being loudly called for, a division took place—For the motion, 106.—Against it, 121.—Majority, 15.—Adjourned.

*Tuesday, April 25.*

Mr. CURWEN postponed his motion respecting the production of Papers relative to Mr. Walsh's purchase of a Seat in Parliament, till an open day.

In reply to a question put by Mr. WHITBREAD respecting the condition of the Colony in New South Wales, Lord CASTLEREAGH said, that its prosperity was such as to make it a matter of doubt whether it was a punishment to felons to be sent there.

## LORD CASTLEREAGH—SALE OF SEATS IN PARLIAMENT.

Lord. A. HAMILTON rose: It was necessary, he said, in order to support the character of the House, that impartial justice should be administered to persons of every rank. Certain individuals had recently been punished for improper acts, and it was due to them and the country, that delinquents of a higher class should not escape a merited chastisement.—[Here his Lordship detailed the case, as it appeared from the evidence given before the Committee of Finance. The readers of the *Examiner* have already been put in possession of the details, as they related to Lord Castlereagh's attempt to procure a seat in Parliament for Lord Clancarty, through the agency of the broker Reding, by means of a Writership.]—Now, said Lord A. Hamilton, is it possible, when the Resolutions of the House against Bribery are in force, to guard against their infringement, if Peers were thus to trample upon the laws? How can this House punish subordinate men, when two persons high in office are thus acting? The high official rank of the Noble Lord should alone have led him to act otherwise. He was also a Servant of the Crown, and was bound to protect the Government in its reputation and dignity; but while he filled the office of President of the Board of Controul, where it was a part of his duty to prevent and punish such corrupt practices,—this very time he chose for entering into this corrupt negociation! The charge which he brought against the Noble Lord was, that he had abused his patronage, in direct opposition to the declaration required to be taken by the India Directors, which enjoins, "that the party using the patronage had not received any pecuniary compensation, nor any thing convertible into a pecuniary benefit."—The House must feel indignant at such an attack on its independence, an attack made for the worst of purposes. For his own part, he believed that Reding was connected with both the Noble Lords (Clancarty and Castlereagh). In 1806, previously to the change in Administration, a Mrs. Grove intimated to the Noble Lord (Castlereagh) that she could furnish him with facts relative to certain abuses. The Noble Lord informed her, that if she would wait upon him and disclose the facts, he would lend her his aid; but he never saw her, and no exposition ever took place. Did this conduct agree with the Noble Lord's assertion, that he was desirous to correct abuses? No; he knew that by exposing others, he must certainly expose himself. This, then, was the case, and a more flagrant one never came before Parliament:—If the House did not visit it with a becoming censure, it may as well shut its doors for ever. A short time since, the Right Hon. Gentleman (Mr. Perceval) stated, that he had in consequence of repeated Advertisements for the Sale of Offices, lodged a sum of money in the hands of a third person, to entrap those advertising Place Brokers; and the trap had succeeded. Now, if this trap had been set to its proper use, how surprised would the Learned Gentleman have been, to find that it had caught the Noble Lord and some of his friends!—(*A laugh.*)—and, upon examination, to discover that three were taken in the trap—two of his colleagues and a Noble Peer!—(*A laugh.*)—What must be the feelings of the public to learn, if neither punishment nor censure was passed, and that subordinate individuals were punished, while acts of flagrancy in a Servant of the Crown were passed by!—(*Hear! Hear!*)—With respect to the defence of the Noble Lord, he was not prepared to conjecture what possible defence he could set up. If he should in answer hear that he had done no more than others had done before his time, that was no answer to the charge. If censure had been passed by the House for former wrong doing, then perhaps this case would not have happened. Much of the evils complained of with respect to the disposal of Seats in this House had arisen from the indifference and sluggishness of the House in censuring conduct so flagrant. The Noble Lord concluded with moving—

"That the Evidence taken before the Committee on East India Abuses, of Lord Viscount Castlereagh, the Earl of Clancarty, Mr. Reding, and Mr. Davies, be now read."

The evidence having been read,

Lord CASTLEREAGH expressed his regret that any act of his should have occasioned such a discussion as the present. He could assure the House, that he had not lent his sanction to any transaction that he imagined would prove at all injurious to the interests of Government or the authority of Parliament. With respect to any thing that has passed between Reding and himself, it never had occurred to him, that influence of a nature improper would be used. The specific consideration for the surrender of the seat was to have been the gift of the Writership which remained in his hands undisposed of, to his friend Lord Clancarty. He had understood from Reding, that there was a Member desirous of vacating his seat, with a view to obtain for either a son, or a nephew, an appointment to India. Now he was ready perfectly to agree, that nothing could mark greater turpitude in any Minister than employing such a man as Reding to procure a seat in Parliament. He certainly looked to the period in which he had held the conversation with Reding, with feelings of great *personal regret*. He had also to assure the House, that until lately he did not know that such persons as those of the description of this man existed in society. *He did not know that there were trafficking Brokers.* Reding had written to him, urging that he knew a friend who would resign his seat in Parliament. If that offer, or indeed any offer was unaccompanied with any considerations partaking of improper influence or corruption, the Noble Lord did not see that any person was justified in challenging a treaty which professed on its basis fairness. He did assure the House, that in this light he was induced to view the offer made by Reding; he considered him merely as a person sent for an answer to the offer, although that person had chosen to say in his evidence that he had passed more time in conversation, than he (Lord C.) was conscious of. He wished to ascertain the person desirous of retiring from Parliament, and that was the only motive which induced him to permit the interview. Under no other impression could he have consented to it. The result of the application was, that Lord Clancarty wrote to him (Lord C.) saying that he should not have any occasion to make use of the Writership, as the negociation had been put an end to. He was disposed to admit, that if it had gone on, he should have consented to bestow it on the son or nephew of the person vacating his seat, from an idea that if my Lord Clancarty could have obtained a seat in Parliament, from his general knowledge of business, and being at the same Board with himself, much benefit would have accrued to the public service. (*Hear! hear!*) If there ever was a transaction which did not attach upon it a degree of turpitude, this was the transaction. As to the idea of the introduction of money in the exchange, that never was in contemplation; besides, the *personal characters* of the parties *forbid the suspicion*. It was indeed physically impossible that a pecuniary motive should have produced the offer. Undoubtedly Reding was a man who had, as it had since appeared, built his hopes upon a variety of sales of this kind. Of this he was perfectly sure, that as far as Lord Clancarty was concerned, he was free from the imputation of being apprised of Reding's views. No one would contend that a man of respectability and free from corruption might not find his way into Parliament by such means, without endangering the Constitution. A most essential feature in this mode of introduction, in preference to the representative of wealth, was the facility with which it opened the door to the seating of men of study, of practical knowledge, and of extended information, a mode far more preferable than the introduction of men of local knowledge only, and of merely popular habits—(*Hear! hear!*) The benefits which the State must necessarily derive, must be great, and much more than compensate for the absence of popularity. In the situation in which he stood as a Minister of the Crown, though he should not attempt to contend that

could have exercised his influence to controul any individual person, yet he should contend that it was not only competent to him, but even that it was his duty to exercise that influence which his official situation gave to him, to be conferred upon such person or persons, who could support the Government upon liberal principles. Looking, therefore, to the degree in which a Minister might use his patronage to that extent, nothing at the same time should induce him to contend before that House, nor did he before the Committee attempt to offer any justification on that principle, nor in strictness could he feel himself justified in signifying to Lord Clancarty his assent to a disposal of a Writership, for the purpose before mentioned. He had shewn the House, that he was not disposed to deny any principle taken upon the broad extent, because he was ready to admit, that although upon this there was no corrupt intention, yet, if the principle was wrong, he admitted that he was not justified by that principle. He could only say, that the subject was presented to his mind in a cursory way, in a conversation with Lord Clancarty; and no moral corruption could be attached to it, nor could he feel that criminal character which Gentlemen on the other side might be inclined to give to it. It was quite clear upon the evidence, that a great part of this transaction was mere romance, particularly the evidence of Mr. Reding; and no part of it was a greater romance than Mr. R.'s having stated that he had an interview with him, and that he had met him at cards; he believed he should be able to prove an *alibi* upon these occasions. *If he had written a letter to that Gentleman*, could the subject be more fully before the House than he had represented himself in the course of his evidence? He did not wish the House to say that *he had acted rightly*; but could he have acted under the influence of turpitude, he should have declined making any defence to this charge. But if, on the other hand, when it was considered what a Minister could do with his patronage, the question might be considered in another point of view, where no influence had taken place upon an election of a Member to serve in Parliament, where it was a mere conversation with Lord Clancarty upon the subject, where the transaction was never completed, he might have, under many circumstances, and at any time afterwards, altered his opinion,—nor was there any things in the evidence of Mr. R. to shew that it was at all near being carried into effect; he would ask the House if they thought him so mad as to risk his character, his situation as a Minister of the Crown, and all that he held dear to his honour and principles, to commit himself in such a way, with such a person as Mr. Reding turned out to be? His object was simply to oblige a private friend; nor could the House for a moment suppose, that he would so far forget himself as to commit such a breach of the privileges of Parliament, as would bring him before that House for their severe censure. He contended, not merely that no injury could be actually done to that House, but that it was actually impossible that the case could have existed upon which the transaction could have been effected. Having, he trusted, explained to the House the view which he had of this subject, he had no more to add, but to express his sincere regret that, having inadvertently given an authority, merely because he was anxious to have his Noble Friend in Parliament, he should have been liable to the animadversion of that House. He admitted, that if that principle was followed up, it might be of material danger to the privileges of Parliament, and thus having submitted the whole of the case, he left it with the House to express their judgment upon it, and he retired, declaring that he should humbly submit to any decision which they might think proper to come to.—(*The Noble Lord then withdrew from the House.*)

Lord A. HAMILTON again rose, and moved the following Resolutions:—

"1. That it appears to this House, from the evidence upon the table, that Viscount Castlereagh, in the year 1805, he having just quitted the office of President of the Board of Controul, and being then a Privy Councillor and Secretary of State, [illegible] proposal of Lord Clancarty, a Member of [illegible] instrument of a Writership in [illegible] procuring the said Lord [illegible] House.

"2. That it was owing to disagreement among other subordinate parties to the transaction, that this corrupt negociation did not take effect.

"3. That Viscount Castlereagh had been, by the said conduct, guilty of a violation of his duty as a Servant of the Crown; of an abuse of his influence and authority as President of the Board of Controul; and also that he was guilty of an attack upon the purity and the constitution of this Honourable House."

The question being put on the first Resolution,

Lord BINNING was disposed to defend his Noble Friend upon Parliamentary principles; and although it was evident that his Noble Friend was not actuated by a *malus animus*, yet the Resolution of the Noble Lord must draw upon him a censure which none but a man guilty of an enormous crime could merit. It may be said that dismissal from office is not a sufficient punishment, and that great men must bear with philosophy what follows; but when charges of corruption are brought against a Member of that House, which may compel him to go into retirement, would any man say that it is not the severest punishment which that House could inflict upon him? He trusted, however, that the House would express its sound judgment, and do justice equally to the individual and to the public. The Noble Lord concluded by moving, "That the other Orders of the Day be now read."

Mr. WYNNE knew that similar practices had before existed, and that many offenders had escaped; but when the matter was thus clearly brought home by evidence, if it were passed by, it was as much as to say, that any person in office might go to market with his patronage. There were, he knew, many in the House who maintained that there was no harm in bribery, and that a seat in that House was not vitiated by being obtained by money; but as acting under the Act of Parliament, they must feel it their duty to conform to the law. For his part, he agreed in the spirit and letter of the resolution of 1799, by which no Minister of the Crown could influence the election of Members of that House, without being guilty of a breach of privilege. He therefore wished that a censure should pass.

Mr. CROKER contended that the thing had become *familiar by custom*, and when it was discovered could only be considered as a venial offence—(*Hear! hear!*)——This was what must be admitted by all. Without entering into detail, he would rest his vote on what his Noble Friend had himself stated. His conduct was not altogether justifiable, for he could not say that it was not wrong—(*a laugh.*) He meant that his Noble Friend had successfully contended, that his offence was not of the darkest die, but that it was a middle sort of offence. He therefore wished that a middle course should be taken. He requested that every individual would do in this case what he would do in his own. At all events, he could not agree in a direct vote of censure.

Mr. Wm. SMITH observed, that it was an observation of Lord Chatham, that "if Parliament did not reform itself from within, it would be reformed with a vengeance from without." He hoped the latter would never take place; but if such abuses as these were passed over, Reform would certainly be called for in a manner he should regret to see. The Noble Lord had done all he could to forward the transaction, and though it had not succeeded, no thanks were due to him on that account. The House could not do less than adopt the Resolutions.

Mr. MANNERS SUTTON would vote for the Order of the Day, as the independence and dignity of the House had been sufficiently consulted by the notice which had already been taken of the transaction.

Mr. GRATTAN, though the Noble Lord had made a well-judged and frank defence, could not but see the case in a very different light from the last Speaker. The offence of the Noble Lord was not single: he had offended not only as a Minister of the Country, but as President of the Board of Controul,—as a Minister he ought not to have sought to purchase a seat in that House; as President of the Board of Controul, he ought not to have offered a Writership for that seat. If the abuse was not unusual, for that very reason the House should interfere and stop it.

Mr. PERCEVAL would violate his private feeling as well as his *public duty*, were he not to stand forward and vindicate his *most esteemed and valued friend*. The House, he was well convinced, would discriminate between wilful corruption and the *venial imprudence* of which his Noble Friend had been guilty; their censure would not affect his character with the slightest moral taint, and he (Mr. Perceval) could still continue honourably to enjoy an interrupted intercourse with the FRIEND OF HIS HEART!—At the same time, he could not but admit that his Noble and valued friend had been guilty of a Parliamentary offence; but then he left it to the House to say, if there were not shades in the offence in which it might almost be said to be lost.—He was for proceeding to the Order of the Day.

Mr. PONSONBY did not wish to say much upon the subject, as he had long been a political opponent of the Noble Lord; but he could never agree to pass to the Order of the Day, after it had been agreed on all sides that an offence had been committed.

Mr. BANKES observed with regret that out of that House there were active and busy men engaged by every means within their reach *to vilify the high in rank* and to *degrade those illustrious Personages* connected by so many ties with the dignity and honour of the throne.—(*Hear! Hear! from the Ministerial Benches.*)—The Newspapers had, by partial statements of evidence, particularly in the case of a Prince of the Blood, whose name was introduced in the Minutes of the India Committee, endeavoured to make a *false* impression on the public, to the disadvantage of that illustrious Personage:—As to the present case, he would not go the length of the Resolutions, but would rather adopt an intermediate course.

Sir F. BURDETT fully agreed to the Resolutions of his Noble Friend. As for an *intermediate* course, it was quite ludicrous. The offence was intentionally committed, and though it had failed through the inefficiency of the minor agents, that was no extenuation whatever. The last Speaker had imputed motives and conduct to what he thought proper to term active and busy persons, who were anxious to run down and vilify men of rank. He regretted to hear such an assertion; and he contended that there existed even in that House no privilege to indulge in indiscriminate *calumny* and *undeserved abuse* upon any portion of their fellow-subjects. At any time such language was improper; but more particularly so at this crisis, when, he was sorry to say it, the character of the House did not stand very high in the public estimation. If there was any ground for such charges, why not manfully name the parties at once? He never saw such a disposition, and to make such charges in the absence of all proof, was dangerous to the Throne, as well as the People. As to the Noble Viscount, he had not even presumed to say he was not guilty, though he had endeavoured to extenuate it: but it admitted of no excuse, for there could not possibly be a greater offence than that of a public officer endeavouring to invade the independence of Parliament. The Noble Lord seemed to think he could make a corrupt use of his patronage in right of his office. Some Gentlemen had taken the present opportunity of expressing their opinions upon Parliamentary Reform. His opinions upon that vital subject were long known; but if the conduct of the Noble Lord was suffered to escape without Parliamentary animadversion, that very occurrence would add another decisive and incontestible proof of its absolute necessity. In that point of view, with the feelings and opinions which he entertained upon the preeminence of the measure of Reform, he perhaps ought to feel gratified that the course recommended by the opposers of the present Resolutions should be carried into effect. He wished that Reform should proceed from Government, because from such a quarter it came with a good grace. Therefore it was, that he impressed upon the King's Ministers to meet the opinion of the country, which was decisive for Reform, with no other difficulty but the selection of the system. In that state of public opinion, when every succeeding day dragged some public delinquent before the public—when taxes the most grinding were imposed so generally and exacted so severely, it behoved those entrusted with the public concerns not to persevere in a course which closed every hope of redress against the people of the grievances under which they suffered. In the present case the House was called upon to punish, by its censure, an attack upon its privileges, and thereby to prevent the recurrence of the offence. In this country there had always existed a party anxious to put the press under trammels. It was not true, that in the public feeling there existed any hostility to rank and power; on the contrary, he knew there was a general predeliction to support them until their own gross misconduct had rendered them intolerable. Then it was that both press and people became obnoxious, and then it was that, instead of endeavouring to correct the deformities of public vices, Governments assembled to put out the eyes of the public, that it should not witness their depravity—(*Hear! Hear!*)

Mr. WINDHAM was inclined to support the middle Proposition of Mr. Bankes, as making the just distinction between the act of the Noble Lord and the principle of the offence.—He declared a decided hostility to Parliamentary Reform, although he was aware of the thousands in the country, from many and various motives, now clamorous for that object.—He saw no distinction between what was called Parliamentary *Reform* and Universal *Revolution*, and therefore the Government that should take the lead in bringing forward such a measure, he would pronounce guilty of *a scandalous desertion of its duties!!*

Mr. WHITBREAD requested that the Resolution of November 1789 might be read. That Resolution declared it to be a high crime and misdemeanor in his Majesty's Ministers or Servants under the Crown, to interfere in the election of Members of Parliament. Such interference was evidently an infringement of the liberty of the subject, and dangerous to the free constitution of this country. Having called the attention of the House to this Resolution, he must ask them seriously to consider whether the conduct of Lord Castlereagh did not come under it? After hearing that Resolution read, how was it possible to pass from that which had been moved by the Noble Lord to the Order of the Day? He had attended closely to the speech of the Noble Lord who made the motion, and listened to it throughout with feelings of approbation; but he must say, that the manner in which his Noble Friend's propositions had been treated was calculated to produce a very unfavourable impression on the public mind. The offence was admitted by the Noble Viscount; but though he had confessed his fault, still it was the duty of the House to express their opinion upon his conduct. It was not sufficient to say that a corrupt purpose had not been carried into effect; that formed no excuse in other cases.—Had not Hamlin the tinman been prosecuted for offering a bribe to Lord Sidmouth; and was not the unfortunate Mr. Beazly suffering for a similar proceeding towards the Duke of Portland? Why then is it said that the Noble Viscount, who offered to exchange a Writership for a seat in that House, should escape all punishment?—The House were told that they ought to take a middle course, by which it appeared to be meant that nothing at all should be done. But no precedent of the existence of such abuses as those which had been proved to prevail, could excuse the House for not punishing offenders, when the cases were brought under their notice. The regret expressed by the Noble Viscount had also been urged, as an inducement to the House not to pass a vote of censure on him. This, however, was a very weak argument in his favour. Did a Judge, when trying a starving wretch for stealing, tell the Jury to put themselves in his place, and to allow his temptation and contrition to excuse his crime! An Hon. Gentleman has alluded to some recent public meetings, which, he says, have passed Resolutions tending to degrade persons of rank, and public men of every description. He, however, had seen no Resolutions of the kind to which the Hon. Gentleman had alluded; on the contrary, he found the people attached to the Sovereign and the Constitution: but it did not follow that that attachment should induce them to approve of all the abuses which had crept into Administration or the Constitution. He had once endeavoured to impress upon the House the necessity of a Reform, but from

various circumstances, the public mind was then diverted from that question. The converts to Parliamentary Reform were now, however, numerous in every part of the country; and if the motion which his Noble Friend had submitted should be negatived, it was easy to predict that they would become still more numerous. His Right Hon. Friend (Mr. Windham) had alluded to the state of the question of Reform twenty years ago, but he begged of him also to reflect on the events which had occurred in Europe since that period—events which might be fairly ascribed to a pertinacious resistance of all reform. This unyielding spirit of opposition to reform, had been the principal cause of the ruin of the Continent. With respect to what had been said of the various plans of Reform, it was surely absurd to make that an argument for no Reform at all. He would tell his Right Hon. Friend, however, that the necessity of Reform was every day becoming greater; that the House must take up the question, and that if they must reform deeply, it was because they did not reform sooner.

Mr. CANNING, in a short speech, expressed his disinclination to aggravate the *unintentional error* of his Noble Friend, by any contumacious defence. But as it was the general disposition of the House to take some notice of the evidence against him, without visiting him with a penal censure, he moved—

"That the House should declare its anxiety not to let any attempt upon the purity of their Constitution pass unnoticed, at the same time that it did not see any necessity to proceed to any criminatory resolutions."

Sir CHARLES PRICE seconded Mr. Canning's proposition.

Mr. TIERNEY argued against the impropriety of giving the question a new dress, and conjured the House not to be led astray by a proposition which was only a change in form from proceeding to the Order of the Day, a course which it was the general feeling of the House to refuse, although with unfeigned regret he still felt it his duty to support the original Resolutions.

Lord ARCHIBALD HAMILTON made a short reply, and the House divided on his Motion.

Ayes 167.—Noes 216.—Majority against the Resolution 49.

The House next divided on Mr. Canning's Amendment—

Ayes 214.—Noes 167.—Majority for the Amendment 47.

Mr. WYNNE then proposed, that there should be added to Mr. Canning's Amendment words to this effect—"That the House was confirmed in its opinion, that it was unnecessary to proceed further in the case, from the openness which the Noble Lord had displayed, and the regret which he had expressed for his conduct." This, however, was negatived without a division.

Strangers were not again admitted, but we understand that Mr. MADOX (Member for Boston) stated his anxiety to assure the House, that it was his intention, at no very distant day, to submit to that House the Motion of which he had given notice, relative to the great question of Parliamentary Reform. That the House should be fully convinced of the absolute necessity of that Reform, he rose then to give notice of the following preliminary Motion for Friday se'nnight:—

"That this House do on Friday se'nnight resolve itself into a Committee of the whole House, to hear Evidence at the Bar, relative to the Conduct of his Majesty's Ministers, in procuring the return of Members to the Commons House of Parliament."—Adjourned.

*Wednesday, April 26.*

Nothing of importance before the House this day.

*Thursday, April 27.*

## SIR J. MOORE.

Mr. ABERCROMBIE moved for the production of the General Orders issued by Sir J. Moore during his retreat in Spain, as he thought they were necessary to clear the character of that gallant Commander.

Lord CASTLEREAGH opposed their production, on the ground that they were not written for public perusal, and might be prejudicial to the army.

Mr. ABERCROMBIE replied, that Sir J. Moore never wrote any thing he was afraid to make public. The confusion of the retreat had been attributed to Sir J. Moore; but these Papers would prove the contrary, and give a strong picture of the state of Spain and of our army when there.

On a division, the motion was lost, there being a majority of 25 against it.

## MR. FRERE.

Mr. EDEN moved for various letters which passed between Mr. Frere and Sir J. Moore, and the Madrid Junta. The letter from the Junta was signed by Morla, and advised the advance of Sir J. Moore, as there was nothing to apprehend from the enemy, although on the very day Sir John received it, Morla surrendered Madrid to Bonaparte. This letter was delivered by M. Charmilly, a Frenchman. Mr. E. said, if that was not treachery, Gen. Morla could not have taken a more complete mode of luring Sir J. Moore to destruction; and while we bitterly deplore the disastrous retreat of that General, we ought to consider it as a signal act of Providence, that he did not comply with the wishes of Mr. Frere or of Gen. Morla.—Although he knew the wishes of his army and the expectations of his country, yet he did not allow himself to be duped by the advice of Morla, backed by the imperious mandates of Mr. Frere.

Mr. CANNING spoke warmly in favour of Mr. Frere, and said, it was not his wish to conceal any part of that correspondence from the House, but that the Papers alluded to were not in the possession of Ministers; all that they had on the subject were already before the House.

Lord H. PETTY wished to hear whether Ministers meant to oppose the whole of the motion.

Lord CASTLEREAGH said, he was not in possession of the subject required, more than what the House was already acquainted with.

Mr. WHITBREAD said, it was a hazardous task for one to say what one thought of Mr. Frere, as his friend (Mr. Canning) took the matter up so hastily; yet he must say, he was astonished to see both him and Lord Castlereagh opposing the motion, but more so to find, after the small majority he had in his favour lately, that Noble Lord still in office. But the sturdy oak is rooted out by the tempest, while the pliant bulrush but bends to the blast

Lord CASTLEREAGH said, that any remark made by the Hon. Gentleman who spoke last would have very little weight with him.

Mr. PERCEVAL apprehended that the surprise expressed by the Hon. Gentleman that his Right Hon. Friend was still in Office, was entirely confined to himself. It was strange, when the House had by a majority agreed that no stigma could attach to Lord Castlereagh's character, that the Hon. Gentleman should set himself up in opposition to the opinion of that House!

Gen. TARLETON thought it proper to give the House some idea of the character of Charmilly, the bearer of Mr. Frere's letter to Sir J. Moore. About 14 years ago Col. Charmilly became acquainted with Mr. Devereux, one of the Delegates of the Irish Catholics; this Gentleman won a large sum of Col. Charmilly, which he refused to pay. Mr. Devereux wishing to Challenge Col. Charmilly, I refused to be his second, on his applying to me for that purpose. Col. Charmilly still refused to pay, alledging he had never lost any money to Mr. Devereux: and said, that on the night it was said he had lost it, he was very drunk; yet this is the man who was sent, in a manner, to sepersede Sir J. Moore, and to call a Council of War in his Army.—The motion was then negatived.

## PRICE OF NEWSPAPERS.

The House having resolved itself into a Committee, to consider the Act of 1797, for laying an increased duty on Newspapers,

Mr. HUSKISSON stated, that at the time when Newspapers had been sold for 4½d, an additional stamp duty of 1½d. was laid on them; but, at the same time, a proportionable discount was allowed the proprietors, on condition of their not raising the price above sixpence. This regulation operated as a kind of *maximum* of price, and under these circumstances Newspapers had continued ever since. But the great advance in the

price of all materials had made a considerable alteration in the profits to proprietors; and therefore it became necessary to make an alteration in the price. In 1797 the price of paper was from 33s. to 40s. per bundle, and now it was from 60s. to 86s. There was also a rise in workmens' wages, and in all materials. If in 1797 the proprietors had but a fair profit, it must suggest itself that either the discount must be discontinued or the limitation of price taken off. In the first case the parties would be at liberty to fix what price they chose, and an additional duty would be laid on the press of the country. Instead therefore of this, he should propose, as the preferable mode, to let the discount remain as it now stood, and allow the papers to be sold at 6½d. each. But no alteration was to take place in papers whose price was above 6d. He said the number of papers had of late considerably increased. Last year the stamps produced two millions profit. He concluded with leave to bring in a Bill pursuant to his statement.

Mr. JOHNSTONE observed, that if Papers were every day increasing, and still proprietors said they were labouring under a loss, the House was not bound to make them compensation.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said, that at the time when the discount was allowed, a restriction was laid as to the price the Paper was to be sold at, and therefore it was necessary to take off that restriction, in proportion to the increased expence of conducting them. As to the increase of Papers, it took place in weekly Papers, whose price was much higher than 6d. The present proposition was not one for raising the revenue, but to relieve a portion of individuals.. And he trusted the Committee would feel, as he himself did, that there was justice in this request.

The Resolution was agreed to, and leave given to bring in a Bill.

Mr. CURWEN gave notice, that on Thursday he would bring in a Bill to prevent the purchase of seats in Parliament, and likewise to impose penalties on persons trafficking in Parliamentary Representation.

The Sale and Brokerage of Offices Bill went through a Committee, and the Report was ordered for Monday.—Lord Folkstone declined making any amendment.—Adjourned.

*Friday, April 28.*

Lord H. PETTY said, that various sums of money, amounting to 85,000l. had been advanced to the Portuguese Emigrants by Ministers, without any authority from Parliament. He did not mean to deny the propriety of this advance, but it was a principle of the Constitution that Ministers could not give any sum of money for any other purposes than those to which it had been appropriated by Parliament, and he therefore moved the following Resolution: "That the applying of any sum of money without the consent of Parliament, was contrary to the rights of Parliament, and a misapplication of the public money."

Mr. PERCEVAL did not deny the assertion of the Noble Lord, but the present case was not a violation of the principle alluded to. The money had been paid to the Portuguese Emigrants, to enable them to proceed to the Brazils, and it was a ligitimate item in the Army Extraordinaries, A similar practice had been adopted when the Noble Lord was in office. He therefore moved the previous question, which, after some conversation, was carried without a division.

In a Committee of Supply, three millions were voted for Army Extraordinaries, one million for the Commissariot Department, and other sums.

## WAR OFFICE.

Mr. WARDLE rose to move for certain Papers from the War Office, in order to call the attention of the House to the Sixth Report of the Committee of Military Inquiry. Great confusion, he said, prevailed in the Accountant Department, where, though 50 additional Clerks had been taken, yet still the business was very much behind.

The SECRETARY at WAR said, that as the Report of the Committee was now under the consideration of Government, he hoped the Hon. Gent. would not press his motion. The additional Clerks were employed in bringing up old arrears prior to 1797.

Mr. WARDLE took upon himself to state, that the regimental accounts were in the most scandalous state; many of them had not been settled for full *thirteen years!* The Report had been in Ministers hands ever since peace, and *now*, when Papers were moved for, they talked of arrangements! Unless a complete change in the system took place, the country must be immense losers. The Accountant Office cost 54,000l. a-year, yet he would pledge himself to get the business better done for 30,000l. He should withdraw his motion for the present.—Adjourned to Monday.

## *TUESDAY'S LONDON GAZETTE.*

### BANKRUPTCY ENLARGED.

W. Lyon, Denzel-street, Clare-Market, glass-merchant, from April 22, to June 10, at ten, at Guildhall.

### BANKRUPTS.

W. Fowler, Distaff-lane, wine-merchant, to surrender May 6, 9, June 6, at ten, at Guildhall. Attorney, Mr. Warrand, Castle-court, Budge-row.

J. Pinney, Bury-street, tailor, April 29, May 2, June 6, at twelve, at Guildhall. Attorney, Mr. Freame, Great Queen-street.

J. Spencer, High-street, Mile-end New Town, victualler, April 29, May 6, June 6, at one, at Guildhall. Attorney, Mr. Davies, Lothbury.

J. Davidson, East India Chambers, Leadenhall-street, merchant, April 29, May 6, June 6, at one, at Guildhall. Attorney, Mr. Wilde, jun. Castle-street, Falcon-square.

J. Taylor, Brown's-lane, Spital-fields, baker, April 29, May 6, June 6, at one, at Guildhall. Attorney, Mr. Palmer, Alsop's-buildings, New-road.

Wm. Marshall, Paternoster-row, Spital-fields, cheesemonger, May 1, at one, 11, at ten, June 6, at twelve, at Guildhall. Attorney, Mr. Mitchell, Union-court, Broad-street.

R. and G. Bolton, Wigan, spirit-merchants, May 17, at five, 18, June 6, at eleven, at the Buck in the Vine, Wigan. Attorney, Mr. Gaskell, Wigan.

M. Clay, South Shields, linen-draper, May 22, 23, June 6, at eleven, at the Golden Lion, South Shields. Attornies, Messrs. Allen and Hodgkinson, Newark-upon-Trent.

T. Smith, Brandon, Suffolk, wine-merchant, May 15, at four, 16, June 6, at eleven, at the Chequer Inn, Brandon. Attorney, Mr. Isaacs, Mildenhall.

C. Tuthill, Norwich, merchant, May 6, 12, June 6, at four, at the White Swan, Norwich. Attornies, Messrs. Simpson and Rackham, Norwich.

G. Capes, Gainsburgh, wharfinger, May 12, 13, June 6, at twelve, at the White Hart, Gainsburgh. Attorney, Mr. Capes, Epworth.

### CERTIFICATES—MAY 16.

J. Walter, Shad Thames, anchor smith.—M. Elliott, Chatham, shopkeeper.—P. Firmin, Dedham, Essex, money-scrivener.—E. Eardley, Exeter, dealer in glass.

## *SATURDAY'S LONDON GAZETTE.*

At the Court at the Queen's Palace, the 26th of April, 1809, present the King's most Excellent Majesty in Council.

Whereas his Majesty, by his Order in Council of the 11th of November, 1807, was pleased, for the reasons assigned therein, to order, that "all the ports and places of France and her Allies, or of any other Country at war with his Majesty, and all other ports or places in Europe from which, although not at war with his Majesty, the British Flag is excluded, and all ports or places in the Colonies belonging to his Majesty's Enemies, should from thenceforth be subject to the same restrictions in point of trade and navigation, as if the same were actually blockaded in the most strict and rigorous manner;" and also to prohibit "all trade in articles which are the produce or manufacture of the said Countries or Colonies."

And whereas his Majesty having been nevertheless desirous not to subject the Countries which were in alliance or in amity

with his Majesty, to any greater inconvenience than was absolutely inseparable for carrying into effect his Majesty's first determination to counteract the designs of his Enemies, did make certain exceptions and modifications expressed in the said Order of the 11th of November, and in certain subsequent Orders of the 25th of November, and of the 18th of December, 1807, and the 30th of March, 1808, declaratory of the aforesaid Order of the 11th of November.

And whereas, in consequence of divers events which have taken place since the date of the first mentioned Order, affecting the relation between Great Britain and the territories of other Powers, it is expedient that sundry parts and provisions of the said Orders shall be altered or revoked.

His Majesty is therefore pleased, by and with the advice of his Privy Council, to make and annul the said several Orders, except as hereinafter expressed, and so much of the said Orders, except as aforesaid, is hereby revoked accordingly.

And his Majesty is pleased, by and with the advice of his Privy Council, to order, and it is hereby ordered, that all the ports and places as far North as the river Ems, inclusively, under the Government styling itself the Kingdom of Holland, and all Ports and Places of France, together with the Colonies, Plantations, and Settlements in the possession of those Governments respectively, and all ports and places in the Northern parts of Italy, to be reckoned from the ports of Orbitello and Pesaro inclusively, shall continue and be subject to the same restrictions in point of trade and navigation, without any exceptions, as if the same were actually blockaded by his Majesty's Naval forces in the most strict and rigorous manner; and that every vessel trading from and to the said Countries or Colonies, Plantations or Settlements, together with all goods and merchandize on board, shall be condemned as prize to the captors.

And his Majesty is further pleased to order, and it is hereby ordered, that this Order shall have effect from the day of the date thereof, with respect to any ship, together with its cargo, which may be captured subsequent to such day, on any voyage which is and shall be rendered legal by this Order, although such voyage at the time of the commencement of the same was unlawful and prohibited under the said former Order, and such ships upon being brought in shall be released accordingly; and with respect to all ships, together with their cargoes, which may be captured in any voyage which was permitted under the exceptions of the Orders above-mentioned, but which is not permitted according to the provisions of this Order; his Majesty is pleased to order, and it is hereby ordered, that such ships and their cargoes shall not be liable to condemnation, unless they shall have received actual notice of the present Order before such capture, or in default of such notice, until after the expiration of the like intervals for the date of this Order, as were allowed for constructive notice in the Orders of the 25th of Nov. 1807, and the 18th May, 1808, at the several places and latitudes therein specified.

And the Right Honourable the Lords Commissioners of his Majesty's Treasury, &c. &c. are to give the necessary directions herein, as to them respectively may appertain."

STEPH. COTTRELL.

*Foreign Office, April 29, 1809.*

The King has been pleased to appoint the Marquis Wellesley, Knight of the most illustrious Order of St. Patrick, to be his Majesty's Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to his Catholic Majesty Ferdinand the Seventh; and has been pleased to direct him to reside in that character at the seat of the Central or Supreme Junta in Spain.

*Admiralty-Office, April 29.*

Extract of a Letter from Admiral Lord Gambier, to the Hon. W. W. Pole, dated on board the Caledonia, in Basque Roads, the 16th instant.

It has blown violently from the Southward and Westward since the departure of the Imperieuse, which has rendered it impracticable to act in any way with the small vessels or boats of the fleet against the enemy.

I have the satisfaction to observe this morning, that the enemy have set fire to their frigate (L'Indienne); and that the ship of the line, which is aground at the entrance of the river, (supposed to be the Regulus,) there is every reason to believe will be wrecked.

[This Gazette contains the particulars of the destruction of three batteries at Lequito and other places in the North of Spain, by the boats of the Arethusa, Capt. Mends, and of there active annoyance of the enemy in attempting to send supplies to their army on that coast.—As also an account of the capture of the Jena French corvette, of 18 guns, and 150 men, by the Modeste, Capt. Elliott; Mr. Donovan, the master, was killed, and one seaman was wounded.]

## BANKRUPTS.

M. Woollen, Sheffield, butcher, to surrender May 18, 19, June 10, at ten, at the Tontine Inn, Sheffield. Attornies, Messrs. Parker and Brown, Sheffield.

W. Wight, Great Barr, Staffordshire, dealer and chapman, May 8, at four, 9, June 10, at eleven, at the Swan Hotel, Birmingham. Attorney, Mr. Stubbs, Birmingham.

J. Lobban, Great Wild-street, Lincoln's Inn-fields, coach-plate-founder, May 6, 16, June 10, at eleven, at Guildhall. Attornies, Messrs. Sloper and Heath, Montague-street.

M. Jones, Swansea, grocer, May 12, 13, June 10, at eleven, at the Bush Tavern, Bristol. Attornies, Messrs. Morgan and Livett, Bristol.

J. Halladay, Bath-street, Saint Luke, Middlesex, coal-merchant, May 2, 9, June 10, at ten, at Guildhall. Attornies, Messrs. Palmer, &c. Copthall-court, Throgmorton-street.

W. Brain, Sutton-street, Westminster, plane-maker, May 6, 16, June 10, at eleven, at Guildhall. Attorney, Mr. Allen, Carlisle-street, Soho.

G. Knight, Holloway, Islington, builder, May 2, 9, June 10, at twelve, at Guildhall. Attornies, Messrs. Kibblewhite, &c. Gray's-inn-place.

J. Ratcliffe, Manchester, baker, May 15, 16, June 10, at two, at the Dog Tavern, Manchester. Attorney, Mr. Teale, Manchester.

J. Bamber, Ormskirk, wine merchant, June 1, at the Talbot Inn, Ormskirk, 2, 10, at one, at the Globe Tavern, Liverpool. Attornies, Messrs. Wright and Palmer, Ormskirk.

W. Colekin and J. Colekin, Coventry, grocers, May 9, 27, June 10, at ten, at Guildhall, London. Attorney, Mr. Fielder, Duke-street, Grosvenor-square.

PRICE OF STOCKS ON SATURDAY.

Consols.....67¾

## TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The Editor intended to have answered SCARECROW's grammatical queries at some length, with reference to the present state of periodical style, but as he despairs of finding room at present for such a disquisition, he must leave it till the close of the Parliamentary Session, and in the mean time make his answer as short as possible. When the Editor in his Preface professed "a diligent respect for the opinion of literary readers," he alluded almost entirely to himself; but he certainly should not have suffered such phrases to escape his Correspondents as "not *improbable* through one of the sources," "it is *him*," &c.; and in future he will interfere in such murderous cases. "*If* any one *deserves*," and "*if* ever proof *was* wanted," are manifest attacks on the rights of the subjunctive mood: he can attribute them to nothing but oversight; in one or two instances they were not observed till after the Paper had gone to press, when the time would hardly have allowed the slightest alteration. The comparative "*lesser*," he takes to be a mere matter of euphony, or occasionally a very useful word in avoiding the ambiguity of the adverb *less*. As to "*community*," it was certainly used as a *numerous* idea in the Preface, and therefore, as grammars go, required the plural verb; though it is a question with him, whether in the simplicity of true grammar, a singular noun ought not always to have a singular verb. His Correspondent may well doubt the latinity of the

word *copia* for copy; it is *Law* Latin, and as the English law does not talk good English, it can hardly be expected to talk good Latin. He believes however, that AINSWORTH mentions the word in the *English-Latin* part of his Dictionary.—The Editor returns his thanks to SCARECROW for his Criticism, and will be happy at all times to improve by his gentlemanly and rational remarks.

# THE EXAMINER.

*LONDON*, APRIL 30.

WAR was declared by Austria on the 9th, but no result of importance can be gathered from the past week's intelligence. It is curious to see how the rumours that afford daily food to the newspapers die away every successive hour, leaving the weekly politician nothing to do but to record their untimely end. No action, it seems, up to the date of the last advices, had taken place at Bamberg; the French have gained no victory; the Austrians have gained none; and the Court of Bavaria have not left Munich for a place of security. Thus the sage old coffee-house statesman, who attaches himself to every passing report, is blown about like a withered leaf on a road:—on Monday it is a north wind, and then he drives to the north; on Tuesday the wind is southerly, and then he tumbles to the south; on Wednesday, he is whirled up to the clouds; on Tuesday the breeze merely tickles him and makes him dance; on Friday, he lights in a ditch; on Saturday, he gets out; and on Sunday, he finds himself just where he was last week. The only rumour of importance is from Hamburgh, where it was understood on the 13th that the Russian Minister at Vienna had formally declared his master's decided intention to unite in every thing with France; and this is the more important, as it is highly probable.—The reader will recollect with what artifice BONAPARTE took the Emperor ALEXANDER over the field of Jena, and explained to him the merits of that accomplished piece of ground. This lesson was not meant for a day; it had much greater objects, much more critical uses in view; and the great Jesuit will continue to give proofs of his skill in the aptness and good memory of his scholar. Besides, if it be not the real interest of Russia to fight on the side of France, still less is it her interest to fight against her. War with a powerful nation inevitably serves to expose the comparative weakness of this half-savage country, which compared with the other European nations, is like a great awkward clown to a dextrous swordsman: it can do nothing without a great genius at its head, to give it an object and a system; and even then, its powers are seen to much better advantage in slaughtering the Turks or in overwhelming the poor Polanders. CATHARINE knew this well, and always contrived to maintain an air of military dignity without entering practically into the great quarrels of Europe. Russia will never be truly strong externally, till it is stronger internally, till it cultivates its own soil, intellect, and resources of every kind: these were the objects of the great geniuses who raised it from barbarism. PETER the Great advanced it more than a century in real internal strength as well as in an imposing external, and CATHARINE entered into the same spirit of policy; but a weak man like the present Emperor, who instead of being the creator of a nation is the creature of a few courtiers, and who enters into the plans of others, without the least philosophy, without attention to human nature, and with a perfect ignorance of the wants of his people, strips them at once of a reputation which nothing but the most cautious policy can preserve. As to the freedom and independence, which our fine-spirited courtiers call upon the Russians to maintain, it is as sorry a farce as to call upon a man to take care of his empty pockets. The Emperor,—the absolute monarch, might be more free if he could get rid of BONAPARTE; but it is a fearful kind of joke to rouse the independence of a country, where a man is sent 800 miles to drag out his life amidst snows and darkness for writing an epigram on a kept mistress: a visit to Gloucester gaol, in comparison with such a sentence, is like stepping into a palace; and when a people so governed are roused to the preservation of their independence, the first enemies they conquer are their domestic tyrants: let the courtiers think of that.—Neutrality is certainly the best policy for Russia in every respect, for the Emperor and his dignity, for the merchant and his commerce, for the agriculturist and his love of the soil; but ALEXANDER, to all appearance, is too weak a politician to gain even this from his ally: the Archduke CHARLES in his Proclamation talked of the assistance of *other powers*, but no doubt he alluded to the English taxes, which if we may judge of their strength by their weight, are certainly no contemptible powers, though alas, their effects are generally shewn on our own shoulders instead of the enemy's. Seventy thousand Russians are already assembled on the Gallician frontiers; BONAPARTE is at Strasburgh; Austria in short is surrounded by her enemies, and to all appearance she is now about to pay the last forfeit of a long life of despotism and corruption. France, in turn, will pay her forfeit too, when the youth of her system has gone by and she grows old in political infamy; and as we perceive in all these events the great established order of PROVIDENCE respecting vice and virtue, so we should console ourselves as we ought by taking advantage of the example, and render the blessed spot, which Heaven has pleased to separate with its waters from the contagion of bad neighbourhood, worthy to be the hope and the everlasting home of liberty.

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The new Order in Council will be found in the Gazette. The American Ambassador, it is said, is well satisfied with the modifications.

A flag of truce sailed on Friday from Dover for Calais with dispatches relating, it is supposed, to prisoners.

A daily Paper says, that Earl GREY dined on Monday last with the late COMMANDER IN CHIEF, at his house in the Stable-yard. Earl GREY, once a Member of the Society of Friends of the People, and a proposer of a Reform in Parliament, dining with the Duke of YORK!! But Earl GREY is a *staunch whig*, so there is nothing to be surprised at.

## MISCELLANEOUS SKETCHES

UPON TEMPORARY SUBJECTS, &c.

### *DEAD ALIVE.*

Mankind, say the philosophers, live in a perpetual delusion: their senses are so many impostors, which teach them to believe that a needle is a polished substance when in fact it is as rugged as a rusty spike; that the air has no weight, when every man of a decent size carries on his

head and shoulders a burden of twenty-one thousand pounds and upwards; and that the sun is no bigger than the shield of ACHILLES, though it is in reality 2,774,692 miles in circumference, that is to say, a million times larger than the earth. The petty interruptions and disputes, that continually attend upon enquiry, like the gnats that pester you when you get into a summer sunshine, and the total ignorance of first causes, have only served to teaze some of the philosophers themselves into a regular system of doubt; nay, one of them, and a bishop too, whose business it was to believe a great deal, went so far as to believe nothing, not even his own existence; thus, when you fancied yourself eating and drinking, it was all fiction, there was no such thing as beef before you, and you had no appetite though you were on the point of starving: a broken leg was a mere notion; and when you exclaimed against villains and murderers, you would have been guilty of gross abuse, provided you said any thing. Others again have been inclined to refine upon this system, and to acknowledge that we do exist in some sort, though in a perpetual dream and without any right to call ourselves men and women, seeing that we may *wake* and find ourselves to be lap-dogs or lamp-posts: thus (to take dignified examples by way of contrast) a Lord Mayor may suddenly come to a knowledge of himself and discover that he is a jackass; an Antijacobin placeman may suddenly open his eyes upon his condition and find himself to be a parrot in a gilt cage, saying any thing and abusing any body just as his master pleases; and even a Prince may be little better than a post when he is shaken out of his long sleep and returns to his senses.

On the other hand, if we know so little of life, we know quite as little of death; or rather we perpetually confound both. Some men, who are called dead, enjoy a much better existence in the world than ever they did when they were said to be alive,—as HANDEL for instance, who from being a gross feeder now lives entirely upon sound, and leads a very sublime kind of existence; and MILTON, who is become immortal among us though he lived in continual fear of his neck: other men, who probably could not endure paint when they had nothing but their earthly senses, now live in painting itself, as the works of our best artists can testify: others breathe and speak in marble; and even dead trees and landscapes, as the poet tells us,

Live in description, and look green in song.

But then, it is astonishing, what a number of dead men we have amongst us, who pretend to be alive and affect to eat and drink and be merry as if they could persuade us out of their very corpses. Such are the modern farcicomic dramatists, who haunt the neighbourhood of Covent-garden; and all other writers who in their attempts to be full of life expose their own mortality, or as OVID says of diseased men who commit suicide, have killed themselves from the very fear of death;

Pars animam laqueo claudunt, mortisque timorem
Morte fugant. METAM. Lib. 7.

Many of these "dead alive" personages have grown so bold as to appear in all the conspicuous places in London and Westminster, in the courts of law, in the pulpit, nay, even in the Parliament, a circumstance utterly unaccountable, unless we take for granted what we read in the old legends, viz. that unclean spirits, in order to pursue their malicious designs, sometimes take possession of dead bodies, and make a show of acting like human beings till they are publicly exorcised and driven away. There is a romance which describes the life and adventures of a dead man in this way, and relates, how he went to execution with eyes that had no more speculation than glass, and how when the executioner racked him, he felt the blows no more than if he had been a leg of mutton. Now are there not persons in our time, who under the same kind of circumstances, look just as stupid and feel just as little? Almost any inhabitant of Westminster will make oath, that there is a carcase which may sometimes be seen walking about that city towards the evening, which is supposed to be the time when it gets out of it's grave: it calls itself SHERIDAN, and pretends to be a famous gentleman who was known about town some forty years ago as a very promising youth: but to my certain knowledge this young man drowned himself, and I am sure the public must recollect the circumstance, which was attended, nobody knows why, with extraordinary pertinacity on the part of the suicide, who kept his head in the full stream till he gradually lost his faculties, and so altered it's appearance both inside and out, that the surgeons who dissected him declared his brain to have been utterly diluted and washed away. These pseudo-somata, or false-bodied phantoms, which by their open appearance in the highways, seem to betoken some ill to the land, have become so public a matter, that I have thought it my duty, in quality of EXAMINER, to return a list of those public characters who have lately met their deaths, in order that the sextons of the various parishes, if they should happen to meet such persons, may request them to walk quietly into their graves and not to disturb the public peace and defraud the said sextons of their burying fees.

### POLITICAL DEATHS

*FOR JANUARY, FEBRUARY, MARCH, AND APRIL*, 1809.

| | |
|---|---|
| Of a Mason's Wife - - - | H. R. H. the Duke of YORK. |
| Of an overflow of the gall - | Sir VICARY GIBBS. |
| Of a petty fog - - - - | Mr. PERCEVAL. |
| Of pure good nature - - - | Mr. ADAM. |
| Frightened to death - - - | Mr. YORKE. |
| Bit his tongue - - - - - | General CLAVERING. |
| Lost himself - - - - - | Mr. MELLISH. |
| Drowned himself - - - - | Mr. SHERIDAN. |
| Of a grievous job, after having suffered for some time under poison from brass - | Lord CASTLEREAGH. |
| Of a stiff neck - - - - | Earl GREY. |
| Worms in the brain - - - | Mr. WINDHAM. |
| Of excessive swearing - - | Mr. FULLER. |
| Of excessive contraction - - | The LORD MAYOR.<br>Sir CHARLES PRICE.<br>Sir WM. CURTIS. |
| Of his grandfather - - - | Mr. CANNING. |

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## *FINE ARTS.*

### EXHIBITION OF THE ROYAL ACADEMY.

IN this Exhibition, which opens to-morrow, there are more good pictures in each class of Art, than have been witnessed in any single season, for many years past. The sublime texts of Milton and Gray are nobly translated on the canvass by the President WEST: the beautiful is also exemplified in his *Narcissus*. HAYDON has added new dignity to the Historical art of his country: his picture of *the old Roman Tribune Dentatus*, ought not to have been hung in the Anti-room, but in the large room, in the best post of honour except the President's. WESTALL's *Hero*

*attacked by lions*, is a rich and animated piece. TURNER and CALLCOTT take the lead in landscape, of which they each have several: ARNALD has several highly pleasing. WARD has some spirited landscape and animal pieces. DANIELL some India views. STOTHARD, OWEN, THOMSON, WOODFORDE and ALLEN have very pleasing fancy pieces. The Portraits by OWEN, HOPPNER, BEACHEY, PHILLIPS, ALLEN, DEVIS, EDRIDGE, &c. are excellent. WILKIE has two capital familiar life pieces, and BIRD, his rival, one. FLAXMAN and BACON have pleasing Sculptures; GARRARD, GAHAGAN, TURNERELLI and other Artists, excellent Busts. GANDY has two admirable paintings of architecture; ELMES, and other Architects, some elegant designs. BONE has many beautiful enamels; he has been deservedly appointed Enamel Painter in ordinary to his Majesty. The above-mentioned pieces will of course be remarked upon in future Examiners.

## EXHIBITION OF THE ASSOCIATED ARTISTS IN WATER COLOURS.

This Exhibition contains many pleasing and some vigorous performances. Among the latter are some by DEWINT, WESTALL, COX, R. SASS, GREEN, especially his *Quoit Players*, J. C. SMITH and NASH, particularly his *Choir of Canterbury Cathedral*. Mr. H. RICHTER's *Picture of Youth*, is a very naturally conceived and humorous representation of a schoolmaster ridiculed by his scholars. Among Mr. S. OWEN's spirited sea-pieces, *the Tempest* reminds us a little too much of the same subject by REMBRANDT in Mr. H. HOPE's collection. The recent dinner meeting of the Associated Artists was honoured by the presence of the President of the Royal Academy.

## EXHIBITION OF THE SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS.

This highly pleasing Exhibition presents a great number of select views in every part of our varied and picturesque island. HAVELL, VARLEY, GLOVER, R. R. REINAGLE, W. TURNER, F. NICHOLSON, J. J. CHALON, and A. PUGIN, have spirited specimens of the most striking effects of nature in the different seasons; Miss BURNE, one of flowers; and HILLS, several of animals. In the superior class of the human figure and human heart, UWINS has a few meritorious little drawings. HEAPHY has sold one of his largest pieces for 400 guineas. This clever painter has been injudiciously classed with WILKIE in style and merit, in both of which he is very far inferior. He succeeds only in subjects of the most vulgar kind, and best in those which are of a disgusting nature. Sore-legged patients, squinting young thieves, ragged and squalid young gamesters, fighting fishwomen, Billinsgates and blackguards, the very offscouring of society,—in fine, human nature in its most degraded condition, are his inspiring objects. In his attempts at refinement, he is wholly unsuccessful, and his delineations of vulgarity and infamy are destitute of a moral. His merit is chiefly that of industry in the very elaborate finishing of all his objects.

R. H.

## *THE OPERA.*

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

SIR,—On Tuesday last a new opera was produced, which had been previously performed once, at COLLINI's benefit on the preceding Thursday, entitled *Teresa e Claudio*, and advertized as a "sentimental" one. I was inclined to believe a mistake must have been made in the advertisements, but found it to be what it professes, that is, according to the dramatic acceptation of the word sentimental. Thus at the English Theatre, when we speak of a sentimental comedy, we mean an excessively dull piece by an excessively dull author, such for instance as *The Soldier's Daughter*; and according to this meaning, the opera of *Teresa e Claudio* has most somniferous claims to the title. The plot is said to have been taken from a novel of the same name as the opera, of which I have never heard, and imagine it is only to be found in the Leadenhall-street collection. *Claudio*, the husband of *Theresa*, absconds from England, having shortened the life of an antagonist in a duel; and reports being received of his death, his wife puts on a black velvet gown, and being reduced to poverty, I suppose by purchasing the velvet, as the author assigns no other reason, accepts of a residence in the house of *Lord Wilk*, an English nobleman, who not only offers her board and lodging, but also his hand in marriage. *Claudio* returning, claims his wife, and *Milord Wilk*, after unbuttoning his collar and to all appearance threatening the audience with a suicide, generously resigns the lady he can no longer hope for. This subject is as melancholy as it is unfit for music. *Lord Wilk* in his phrenzy has sufficient recollection left to sing the bass of a trio, and *Claudio* and *Theresa* no sooner find each other alive, than they try their vocal powers in an Italian duet. It is remarkable that foreigners scarcely ever give names to Englishmen in their novels or plays that have not a ludicrous effect to an English ear; this is the case with *Lord Wilk*, which becomes additionally ridiculous by it's contrast with the flowing terminations in the Italian language. The name of *Nerina* given to a housemaid, and *Leggerezza Bindoli* to an English author, are of a piece with the other absurdities in the Opera.

The character of *Bindoli*, owing to the excellent performance of Signor MORELLI, served in some degree to enliven the piece, although grossly inconsistent and unnatural. English gentlemen do not keep wretched authors in their houses upon short allowance of food and clothing to call them MÆCENAS; yet that appears to be the business of *Bindoli*, who is continually calling upon Apollo and the Muses for inspiration, with as little success as his rival in absurdity, Signor BUONAIUTI. I am at a loss to conceive what could induce Signor NALDI to perform a serious character. Does he imagine that he has talents for tragedy, or think it of no consequence what character is made a *vehicle* for his songs? I rejoice that our English actors are more rational, we should otherwise probably see in our play-bills, "*Hamlet*, with songs, by Mr. DIGNUM." Madame COLLINI, divested of her vivacity, sinks at once into a very inferior performer; her singing is monotonous and devoid of the finished graces and taste necessary for serious music; she would do well to sing a little more in tune, and would not be thought a worse tragic actress if she sometimes ceased from laughing. Signor SIBONI, fumed and fretted with as little success as ever, and with more than usual turbulence. His harsh and jerking pronunciation totally destroys the beauty of the Italian language, and his incessant execution is an exaggeration of the faults of BRAHAM; scarcely a single crotchet falls in his way that is not dissected with a merciless dexterity into a profusion of parts, to the total destruction of melody.

I had almost forgotten to mention the music of FARI-

NELLI, a relation of the celebrated singer of that name; but it is indeed so indifferent, as scarcely to be worth remembrance; it is without variety, and drawls on in one strain of heaviness from the beginning of the opera to the finale. H. R.

## *NAVAL INTELLIGENCE.*

### ATTACK IN BASQUE ROADS.

Lord Cochrane personally conducted the explosion ship, which had been charged by himself in a manner than which nothing was ever more dreadful. His Lordship caused about 1500 barrels of gunpowder to be started into puncheons, which were fixed end upwards. Upon the tops of these were placed between 300 and 400 shells, charged with fuses, and among and upon these were between 2 and 3000 hand grenades. The puncheons were fastened to each other by cables wound round them, and jammed together with wedges; and moistened sand was rammed down between these casks, so as to render the whole, from stem to stern, as solid as possible, that the resistance might render the explosion the more violent. In this immense instrument of destruction Lord Cochrane committed himself, with only one Lieutenant and four seamen; and after the boom was broken, his Lordship proceeded with the explosion ship to the enemy's line. At this moment the batteries on shore were provided with furnaces to fire red-hot shot; great therefore was his Lordship's danger. The wind blew a gale, and the tide ran three knots an hour. When the blue lights of the fire-ships were discovered, one of the enemy's signal ships made the signal for fire-ships; which being also a blue light, the enemy fell into great confusion, firing upon her with very injurious effect, and directly cut their cables.

When Lord Cochrane had conducted his explosion ship as near as possible, the enemy having taken the alarm, he ordered his brave little crew into the boat, and followed them, after putting fire to the fuse, which was calculated to give them 15 minutes to get out of the reach of the explosion. However, in consequence of the wind getting very high, the fuse burnt too quickly; so that, with the most violent exertion against wind and tide, this intrepid little party was six minutes nearer than they calculated to be, at the time when the most tremendous explosion that human art ever contrived took place, followed by the bursting at once in the air of near 400 shells, and 3000 hand-grenades, pouring down a shower of cast-metal in every direction? But fortunately the boat reached, by unparalleled exertion, only just beyond the extent of destruction. Unhappily this effort to escape cost the life of the brave Lieutenant, whom his noble Captain saw die in the boat, partly under fatigue, and partly drowned with waves, that continually broke over them. Two of the four sailors were also so nearly exhausted, that their recovery has been despaired of. Such were the perils our hero encountered. When they reached their ship, the Impericuse, it is known that Lord Cochrane was the first to go down to the attack, and was for more than an hour the only English man of war in the harbour. His attack and capture of the Calcutta, which had one-third more guns than the Impericuse, has been properly spoken of.

The repetition of his explosions was so dreaded by the enemy, that they apprehended an equal explosion in every fire-ship; and immediately crowding sail, ran before wind and tide so fast, that the fire-ships, though at first very near, could not overtake them, before they were high and dry on shore, except three 74's, besides the Calcutta, which were afterwards engaged, taken, and burnt. Seven went ashore, of which two three-deckers afterwards got off, before our ships of the line got in, and they went up the river. Two of the remaining five were on their beam ends before Lord Cochrane came away; and it was his Lordship's opinion, that with proper exertion they might be completely destroyed. Our hero soon turned his attention to rescue the vanquished from the devouring elements; and in bringing away the people of the Ville de Varsovie, he would not allow even *a dog* to be abandoned, but took up a crying and neglected little favourite and brought it away. But a much greater instance of humanity was displayed to a Captain of a French 74, who came to deliver his sword to Lord Cochrane, lamenting, that all he had in the world was about to be destroyed by the conflagration of his ship. His Lordship instantly got into the boat with him, and pushed off, to assist his prisoner in retrieving some valuable property; but, in passing by a 74 on fire, her guns began to go off; a shot from which killed the French Captain by Lord Cochrane's side, and so damaged the boat, that she filled with water, and the rest of his party were nearly drowned.

## *LAW.*

### COURT OF KING's BENCH.

*Thursday, April 27.*

THE KING *v.* ALEXANDER DAVISON, ESQ.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL prayed the judgment of the Court upon Alexander Davison, convicted of making false returns, in his character of Agent to the Barrack-master-General. The Learned Counsel added, that it was fit and proper he should suggest to the Court one fact in mitigation of the defendant's conduct, namely, that he had paid into the Exchequer 18,883*l.* 3*s.* the amount of surcharges in his accounts rendered, and that the Public were no losers by his conduct.

Mr. Justice GROSE then proceeded to pass sentence, and observed, that notwithstanding he (the defendant) had made restitution of the sums he had fradulently charged to Government, and the Public on that account were no losers, yet his conduct was of that criminal and mischievous sort, and its tendency so destructive, that the Court felt itself called upon to set such an example as would deter others from the commission of similar frauds in future, as without it, it was impossible society could exist. Taking, therefore, all the circumstances of his case into consideration, the Court ordered and adjudged, that he be further imprisoned for *Twenty-one* Calendar Months in Newgate, and then discharged.

### BIRTHS.

At Driffield, Gloucestershire, the wife of a poor man, named Kilby, of four children, three of whom are living.

### MARRIAGES.

Last week, Mr. Thomas Butterfield, of Grandisburgh, Suffolk, to Miss Mary Bishop, of Norton Falgate.

Tuesday, at Wanstead, T. A. Curtis, Esq. second son of Sir W. Curtis, Bart. M. P. to Miss Harriet Green, youngest daughter to the late Young Green, Esq. of Pool.

At Tapton, Mr. J. Rogers, tailor, horse doctor, and tooth drawer, aged 60, to Mrs. Ann Stagg, widow, aged 84. A grandson of the bride gave her away, and her grand daughter officiated as bride maid.

### DEATHS.

At Walsutton, near Wisbeach, Mr. J. Clemenson, farmer, on the 8th inst. his wife breathed her last on the 11th; and on the 13th, the second daughter, only 19 years of age, expired in the arms of her sister. Nine orphans are yet left to bemoan their irreparable loss.

As Mrs. Cooper, of Crown-street, Finsbury-square, was sitting at tea, on Friday se'nnight, she fell from her chair and expired instantly.

At Paddington-green, the Right Hon. Charles Francis Greville, second brother to the Earl of Warwick.

Thursday se'nnight, at Mattock's-Tree, near Taunton, Mary Coleman, at the advanced age of 105.

On Monday last, Harriet, the wife of John Scott Bgerley, of Edmonton, Esq. and daughter of the late Holland Cooksey, of Braces Leigh, Worcester, Esq.

On the 4th of Feb. at Malta, John Ives, Esq. Surgeon of his Majesty's 31st regiment of foot.

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